

Appln No. 09/575,198  
Amdt. Dated: September 18, 2006  
Response to Office Action of July 27, 2006

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### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Office Action dated July 27, 2006.

#### **Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

Claim 1 has been amended to specify that the printer includes an ink channel dedicated to printing the coded data. Basis for this amendment can found in Sections 7.4.1 and 7.4.2 on pages 76 and 77 of the specification, which clearly describes a dedicated IR ink channel (in addition to CMYK) for printing coded data simultaneously and superimposed with visible information.

The Applicant contests the Examiner's assertion that the present invention would have been obvious to the skilled person in view of Mori combined with Dymetman.

Claim 1 specifies that the printer is configured to print "coded data and superimposed visible information". The Applicant submits that this feature cannot be found anywhere in Mori, as alleged by the Examiner.

The Examiner makes reference to column 4, lines 35-50 of Mori, in support of his assertion that Mori teaches the above-mentioned claim feature. This passage of Mori reads as follows:

*(6) Where the identification code is read through [sic] the identification read section 8, both the print image and the identification code may be printed on the recording medium. In this case, each page of the re-print can be read through [sic] the identification code read section (emphasis added).*

Whilst the disclosure of Mori appears to be the result of a poor translation from Japanese, one can reasonably interpret this passage of Mori by substituting the term "through" with "via". Nevertheless, what is clear is that Mori says nothing about *where* the identification code should be printed relative to the print image. All Mori teaches is that each page printed should contain on it somewhere the identification code.

Hence, Mori fails to teach a printer configured for printing superimposed coded data and visible information. Mori merely teaches a printer configured for printing coded data and visible information on the same page. Figures 1-11 of Mori show the barcode printed in a corner of each page printed and it is clear that Mori did not contemplate a printer configured for printing superimposed coded data and visible information. Furthermore, Mori does not suggest anywhere that his printer should include an ink channel dedicated for printing his identification codes.

Moreover, Dymetman clearly teaches printing visible information and coded data in *separate* printing steps (see column 11, lines 55-65). Whilst Dymetman's visible information and coded data may be superimposed, he does not teach a printer which is configured for printing them simultaneously. Dymetman uses a first printer to print coded 'blanks' and second printer to print superimposed visible information.

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The Applicant therefore submits that the combination of Mori and Dymetman would not have led the skilled person to arrive at the invention as defined in claim 1. Neither document teaches a printer configured for simultaneously printing coded data and visible information. And neither document suggests anywhere a printer having an ink channel dedicated for printing the coded data.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections have been successfully traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

Applicants:



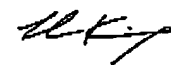
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